

REMARKS

Claims 1-4 are pending in this application with claim 1 being independent.

Request for Interview

Upon receipt and prior to an examination on the merits, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner contact Applicants' representative at 703-205-8000 to schedule an interview.

Conclusion

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Martin Geissler (Reg. No. 51,022) at the telephone number below, which is located in the Washington, DC area.


If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees

required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By


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